

REMARKS

Allowable Claims

Applicant gratefully acknowledges that claims 4-6, 9 and 10 are allowed.

Rejections under 35 USC §102(b)

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Song (U.S. Patent No. 5,686,331).

Claim 11 has been cancelled. Thus, the rejection has become moot.

Thus, the only rejected claim 11 has been cancelled, which places the present application into condition for allowance.

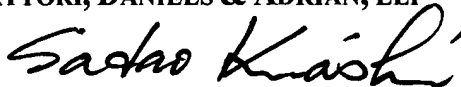
If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

Response After Final
Serial No. 09/996,758
Attorney Docket No. 011318

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sadao Kinashi", written in a cursive style.

Sadao Kinashi

Registration No. 48,075

Telephone: (202) 822-1100

Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

SK/sg